



Group Art Unit: 1744

Serial No.: 09/731,863

Examiner: William H. Beisner

Filed: December 8, 2000

P.T.O. Confirmation No.: 8842

For: **METHOD FOR PURIFICATION TREATMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL POLLUTANTS** 3/27/03

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.111

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

March 17, 2003

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated September 16, 2002, the response due date having been extended to March 16, 2003 by a three-month Extension of Time, Applicant amends the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 1-19 without prejudice or disclaimer.

Please add new claims 20-48 as follows:

20. (New) A method for purification treatment of an environmental pollutant, comprising the step of incorporating the environmental pollutant and microorganisms in a cohesive or adhesive polysaccharide produced from bacteria of the genus *Zoogloea*; a levan produced from bacteria of the genus *Bacillus*, *Acetobacter*, or *Pseudomonas*; or a polymer containing a sugar component in which fructofuranosyl group(s) is/are bonded to a fructosyl group at the β -2,6 position.

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